**PATENT** 

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of:

Tomaschko et al.

Application No.:

09/781,388

Filed:

February 13, 2001

For:

Balloon Cones and Waists Thinning Methodology

Examiner:

Vy Q. Bui

Group Art Unit:

3731

Box Fee Amendment

Assistant Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

Docket No: S63.2-9711

## **AMENDMENT**

This Amendment is in response to the Office Action dated December 26, 2001.

Please amend the application as follows:

## In the Claims:

Please replace claims 27, 33, 40-42, 44 and 45 with the following amended

claims:

27.(Amended)

A medical balloon having:

a proximal waist portion have a proximal waist wall thickness;

- a proximal cone portion having a proximal cone wall thickness;
- a body portion having a body wall thickness;
- a distal cone portion having a distal cone wall thickness; and
- a distal waist portion having a distal waist wall thickness;

wherein the wall thickness of at least one balloon segment selected from the group consisting of the proximal waist, the proximal cone, the distal cone and the distal waist segments is less than the body wall thickness, the at least one segment having a chemically etched or ground surface.